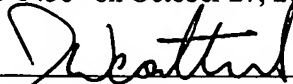


JW

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA, 22313-1450" on October 27, 2006.

  
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Joseph Weathered

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT : Kazunari HANAOKA

SERIAL NO. : 10/506,463

FILED : September 1, 2004

FOR : Powder Body Metering Apparatus

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*Mail Stop Amendment*  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450,  
Alexandria, VA, 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

S I R:

Pursuant to the Duty to Disclose under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p), applicant encloses herewith a copy of an Information Disclosure Citation form listing patent documents relevant to the background of the invention described and claimed in the above-identified application. Also enclosed are copies of the listed documents other than U.S. patents and U.S. published applications.

The powder body metering apparatus of enclosed Patent Document JP2002-148092A includes a base plate (see reference numeral 7 in FIG. 1); a side plate (see reference numeral 14 in FIG 1); and a metering container (see reference numeral 17 in FIG 1). The base plate has an inlet (see reference numeral 8 in FIG 1) provided to penetrate the base plate in a vertical direction and an outlet (see reference numeral 9 in FIG 1), and the side plate is provided in a lower surface of the base plate so as to freely move horizontally and has a through hole (see reference numeral 14 in FIG 1) provided in a vertical direction, and the metering container has an edge portion of an upper end opening which is fixed to an edge portion of the through hole of the side plate, and structured such that the metering container is variable in an internal capacity and is provided in a lower portion with a porous body not allowing a powder body having a set magnitude to pass through and allowing a gas to pass through, the slide plate freely moves between a position at which the through hole meets the inlet of the base plate and a position at which the through hole meets the outlet of the base plate, and the inlet of the base plate is closed in a state in which the through

hole meets the outlet of the base plate.


Patent document CN 2350735Y discloses a capacity metering apparatus of intermittent type (see FIGS 1-4 and the Specification column page 1, line 10 through page 2, line 12), and more specifically, the powder body discharge port is freely opened and closed by a opening and closing plate for inhibiting the powder from flowing out therefrom (see FIG 1 & 3). Thus, a powder body discharge port is formed by using a closing member which freely opens and closes the lower portion of the metering container.

The apparatus of enclosed document JP 2002-148092A further includes a metering container (see reference numeral 32 in FIG 3), a check valve (see reference numeral 36 in FIG 3) and an upward discharge pipe (see reference numeral 37 in FIG 3). The metering container has an inlet (see reference numeral 33 in FIG 3) in an upper end and a horizontal outlet (see reference numeral 34 in FIG 3) in an upper side portion, a check valve for opening and closing the inlet (see reference numeral 33 in FIG 3), of the metering container, and an upward discharge pipe connected to the horizontal outlet, and structured such that the metering container is variable in an internal capacity and is provided in a lower portion with porous body not allowing a powder body having a set magnitude to pass through and allowing a gas to pass through, wherein a powder body discharge port is formed in a lower portion of the metering container (see reference numeral 19 in FIG 3).

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the enclosed references in determining the patentability of the claimed invention. Applicant also requests that the Examiner return a copy of enclosed Form PTO-1449 with initials or other marks indicating that the references have been so considered.

Respectfully submitted,  
COLEMAN SUDOL SAPONE, P.C.

Dated: October 27, 2006

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<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION</b>	Att'y Ref: <b>U06-051</b>	Serial No: <b>10/506,463</b>
	Applicant: <b>Kazunari HANAOKA</b>	
	Filing Date: <b>1 September 2004</b>	Art Unit: <b>3754</b>

Foreign Patent Documents							
Examiner Initial	Publication Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
						Yes	No
	<b>CN2350735Y</b>		<b>China</b>			<b>NO</b>	
	<b>JP2002-14802A</b>		<b>Japan</b>			<b>NO</b>	

Examiner Initial	Other Documents (by Title, Author Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Examiner:	Date Considered:
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered; Include a copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.	